

CLAREMONT · LARROCA · GURU-eFX



ARVEL 2

Guru
GURU

100 YEARS AND STILL INSPIRING US ALL



WE LOVE YOU STAN!

X-TREME X-MEN

Originally, these mutant super-heroes were known as X-Treme X-Men. Now -- in hopes of building a better world for all its children -- they've become global Marshals, responsible for policing the boundaries between humanity and their mutant kinsfolk.

The team is responding in the wake of a recent psychic attack on Kitty Pryde by her -- and Logan's -- old enemy, the master assassin Ogun. It seems he's been hiding in Kitty's mind in the years since his apparent death. Now discovered and evicted, he seeks a new host. The team is determined to stop him once and for all.



'RO --
STORM --
their leader



BISHOP



REMY
LeBEAU --
GAMBIT



ROGUE



SAGE



KATHERINE
"KITTY" PRYDE --
SHADOWCAT



RACHEL
SUMMERS --
Kitty's best friend



LOCKHEED --
her very best
(dragon) friend



LOGAN --
WOLVERINE



OGUN --
the villain, their
adversary

"THINGS GET BAD!"

BY CHRIS CLAREMONT
& SALVADOR LARROCA

GURU-eFX
COLOR ARTIST

SALVADOR LARROCA
& GURU-eFX COVER ARTISTS

VC's CLAYTON COWLES
LETTERER & PRODUCTION

JIM RUGG (AFTER JACK KIRBY
& SOL BRODSKY) [HOMAGE
VARIANT]; PEACH MOMOKO;
DAVID NAKAYAMA [DEMONIZED];
SALVADOR LARROCA
[CLASSIC DESIGN]
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

DREW BAUMGARTNER
ASST. EDITOR

MARK BASSO
EDITOR

JORDAN D. WHITE
SENIOR EDITOR

© 2000 MARVEL

X-MEN CREATED BY

CHICAGO--

--a loft space adjacent to the Belles of Hell bar downtown, current residence of grad student Kitty Pryde.

Currently occupied by two of her teammates in X-Treme X-Men, Bishop and Sage, who are communicating via holographic connection with the team's leader, Storm, better known these days to her friends as 'Ro.

You really think this'll work?

Considering the circumstances, Lucas, our options are limited.

The odds are favorable.

When Katherine evicted Ogun's psychic essence from her consciousness, part of him was left behind.

That has been dealt with.

But part of her also remains within Ogun--thus far undetected.

All we need to do is establish a link.







Wow!

Not what you're used to in a mindscape?

Nothing like I'm used to.

I guess I know too many telepaths.

I like to keep my secrets hidden.

This labyrinthine manifestation keeps them that way.

No fear of that. I'm not sure I could pull secrets out of this maze.

For what it's worth, I don't think Ogun could either.

But he was always *here*, Ray.

He's taken moments I wanted to always cherish...

...and made them feel--dirty.

Screw that. Screw *him*!

We've *both* been places--we've both done things--that'll haunt us the rest of our lives.

But *you* taught me: Never give up.

We're gonna get him, Kitty. You have my word.

And how much, girl, is such a "word" actually worth?

**HA
HAHAHA
HA!**

Even in this fog of a brain, protégée, I am not that hard to find.



I'm *not* your "protégée."

And I'll *never* be your slave.

Only, child, if you *win*.

Trust me, monster man-- this time, I'll win.

That's it, Kitty!

Keep him distracted with your memories of your last fight.

He may be aware of me as your friend--



--but not of what *Phoenix* can do.

If I can link with Ogun's psyche via this remnant--

Kitty. I've *got* something!

Ogun's possessing a *paramedic*.

I have a solid lock on his location!



Gotcha!

TNK





<You missed your opportunity, Logan.>

<Perhaps next time you'll have better luck.>

<Or I will.>

NO MORE MUTANTS!

MUTANTS!

It's a mutie!

Get the monster!

Please, please don't hurt me!

I have a family!

Let him go, freak!

Save the medic!



Relax, Logan.

You're psychically cloaked now. Nobody can see you.

They're not sure what just happened.

Thanks, kid.

What-- what's going on?



Why'd you do that, old man? What were you thinking?!

Rachel could've nailed him! Trapped his psychic presence!

He played you, Logan.

Like I was an amateur, I know.

Ogun is hunting US as much as we are him.

Now he is looking for a "better" host--



--I do not like those implications.

As for "why," Katherine-- Logan was thinking of you.

To keep you safe, he would do anything.

Ogun knows that and manipulated him accordingly.



No 'fense, 'Ro, but this Ogun fella dunno me.

An' ah love a challenge.

So, y'all find him--

--an' leave th' rest t' me.



What d'you think?

He's right. Kitty hardly knows him.

Since Ogun only knows what *she* knows about us, *Gambit* is a wildcard against which he cannot readily prepare.



How're *you* gonna find him when the telepath can't?

Don't think like the monster, darlin'. Think like a *thief*.

Ogun's after a "better" host. Mutant or powered, ah 'spect.



It's *raining*!

It's getting cold!

Don't let 'em win!

Human life!

Humans rule!

Bet a genefreak's responsible!

The muties're tryin' to drive us home!



Your rain isn't working, Storm. It's making things worse.

Rachel, what is wrong?

There's more to this than just a mob--

--but I can't find it.

ELSEWHERE...



SCANNING IMMEDIATE LOCALITY FOR ABERRANT ENHANCED BIOFORMS, SUBSTRATE "MUTANTS"

COLLATING DATA AS PRELUDE TO INITIATING EX-CISION PROTOCOL

FORWARDING RELEVANT FILES TO MOBILE NON-MUTANT ENHANCED BIOFORM

EXECUTE TACTICAL DIRECTIVES

As good as done, Scrapper.

ERROR

CORRECT IDENTICLATURE, **SCRAP**

Whatever!

⊗ ELSEWHERE,
AGAIN...

You
brats lookin' fer
trouble?!

How 'bout we
give you both a
spanking--

--send ya home *cryin'*
t' your mama?!

Teach 'em
a *lesson!*

You
an' what
army?

Just
this *once*,
Sis--

--couldn't you
keep your mouth
shut?!?

It's a
mutie!

OW!

That
hurt!

It
was meant
to!

Get 'em,
Big Sis!

Genefreak powers ain't
nothin' against human
muscles.

OW!

Ever think, Li'l
Sis, it's maybe--
wrong--t' start
a fracas...

...y'r *big*
sister always
has t' finish?

It's so
great to see
you!

They
deserved
it.

Gambit!



Name's Rogue. Ah'm a Federal Marshal, guys.

How 'bout y'all call it quits while you're ahead?

You stand up for *genefreaks*--

--you get *beaten* like 'em.

This ain't a time t' be onna street, *Thieves Guild* or no.

Members of our crew, Remy--kids you *know*--they've vanished!

Just 'cause they're mutants, *nobody* cares.



But now that *you're* here, we can find who did it--

--an' *slam* 'em just like Rogue's doing here!

Ain't that simple.



We already on a job--

--huntin' a way more *dangerous* threat.

Remy, we're doin' what you *taught* us--to take care of our own--

--and help keep the city *safe*.



Kids have a fair point, lover.

An' we can't jus' leave 'em.

Mutant kid'd be an ideal target for Ogun.

Best you take point.

Ah'll cover the girls--

--what's with the look?

Not quite sure--

--somethin's caught my attention.

WOO
WOO
WOO



Now we're babysitters.

Remy's friends, Remy's call--

--and Rogue's reasoning can't be faulted.

Are those sirens?

WEE
WEE
WEE



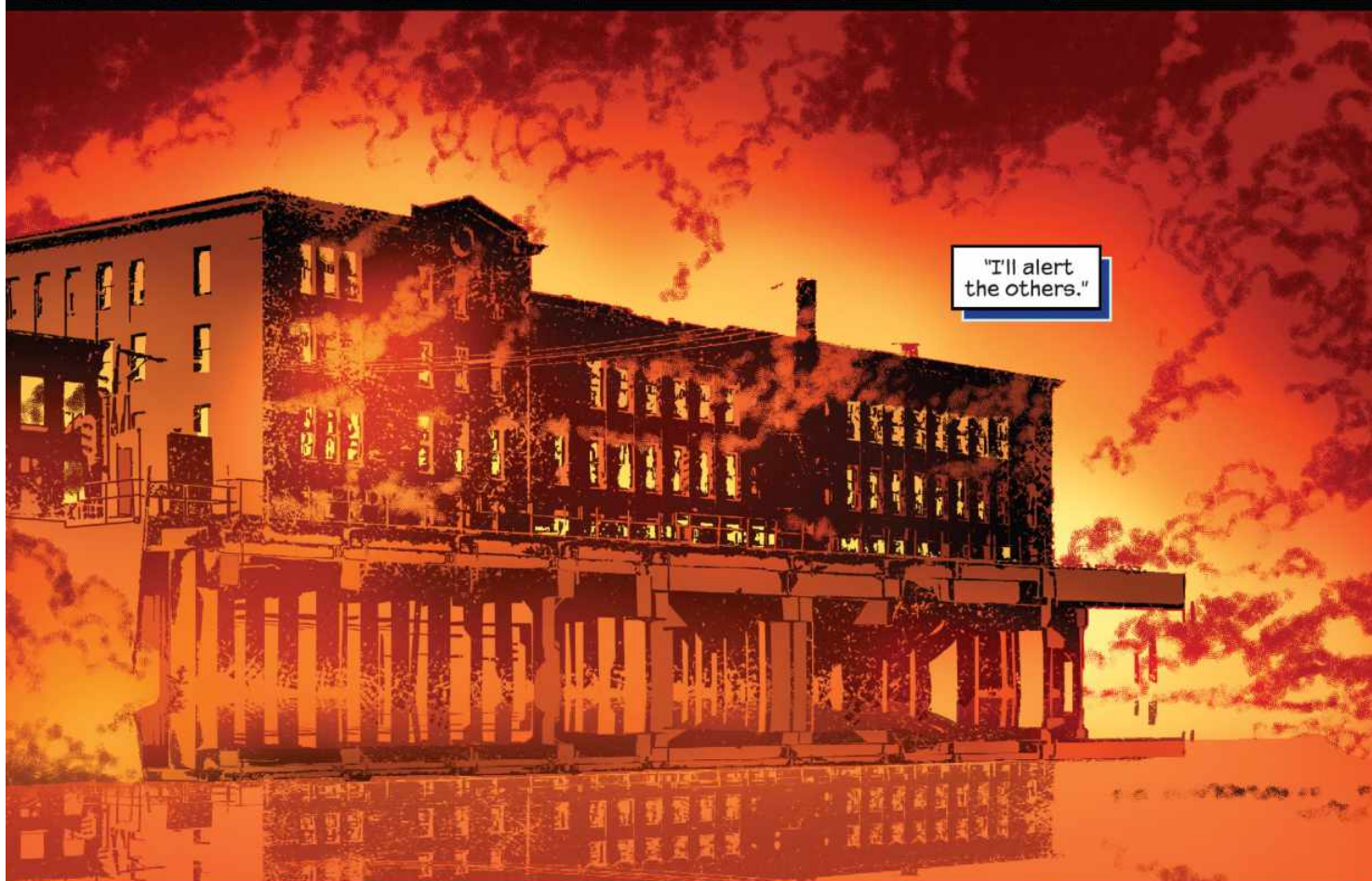
Multiple-alarm blaze-- interesting.

If my readouts are correct, a mutant is involved--

--one of the firefighters.

You think Ogun will try to grab this one?

Absolutely.



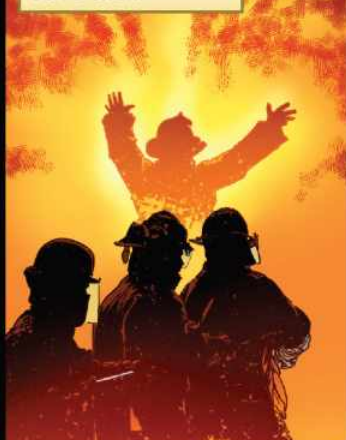
"I'll alert the others."

Ogun cares *nothing* for the lives in peril.

Or the firefighter determined to save them.

All that matters is the firefighter's mutant power.

And the vengeance it will allow him to take.



But, thanks to the connection established between Kitty and Ogun...

...the part of Shadowcat's essence that's bonded with him has other ideas.

Not gonna happen, monster man.

Not this time--

--not ever!

Ohmigod--

I lost control of the fire!

Only seconds to act--

--have to absorb the flames--

"--before my crew and the civilians we're rescuing get torched!"

Got him!

I have a solid psi-link with the trace of Kitty merged with Ogun...

...and with *Ogun* himself!

Rachel, what are you doing?!

Ogun's a *ghost*, boss--

--the best any of you can do is threaten his host.

I'm the team's telepath-- and *Phoenix*!

I can play on his level the next time...







You're the one called Bishop, yes?

You absorb energy, am I right?

I'm afraid I can't let you do that.

You're also supposed to be some sort of fighter?

KRAK

That's 'cause I haven't done anything yet.

Thus far, I have to say, I'm not impressed.

What--?!



My turn!



Impressive hits, I give you that.



Just not quite enough.



Good as you are, I'm better!



That remains to be seen.



FLIP

Assessing
Beasty's motion...
factoring in the
gravity...I can...

SLAMMO

GRAB

$$T = 2(3.14)\sqrt{\frac{0.45\text{m}}{9.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}}} = 6.28\sqrt{0.046} = 1.35\text{s}$$
$$l = \frac{T^2 g}{4\pi^2} = \frac{(2)(9.8)}{4(3.14)^2} = \frac{39.2}{39.44} = 0.99 \approx 1\text{m}$$

You
caught me by
surprise.

You hurt
me!

I don't
like that.

Get the
message?

TAP



He hits harder than anyone I've ever fought.

Sage isn't moving--

--can't worry about that now--

--have to put this guy down fast an' hard--

--what the--?!

Nice try, genejoke--

WHAM

--but I'm not that easy.

Don't feel bad--

--your mutie *power-zaps* wouldn't have done any better.

Fight's over, you two.

Time t' throw out the trash!

KRASH

Purity rules!

Earth is *humanity's* home!

No *genejokes* allowed!

We're *Galèrer*-- that means "*struggle*."

We're Purity's *super heroes*.

We're humanity's-- and this world's-- *saviors*!

You're just the *first* to fall!

Before the day's over...

...the Chicago River will run thick with *mutie blood*!



NEXT:



